

Trade Watches Montreal Case

Protection Battle May Have Effect on Distribution

The legal battle in Montreal courts as to whether the Kent Theatre, a Superior operation, has priority over the Snowden, a United Amusements unit, has taken a turn that will draw additional interest from all Canadian distributors and exhibitors. Judge Louis Cousineau has decided that the dispute will be settled in Superior Court and not before the administrator of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. The product involved is that of Vitagraph, Warners' Canadian outlet.

There is talk that the present action will be followed by one

(Continued on Page 2)

Lawson, Beeston Odeon Directors

The Honorable Earl Lawson, P.C., K.C., and George H. Beeston, both veteran figures of the Canadian motion picture industry, have been added to the boards of directors of Odeon Theatres of Canada Limited and Empire-Universal Films Limited.

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Prefabrication For Show Shops

Prefabricated theatres for post-war use in North America as well as Europe and China are interesting motion picture producers and exhibitors. It is reported in London that J. Arthur Rank will use them for a quick drive on overseas markets in an

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Theatre Burns at Gatineau, P.Q.

Fire last week destroyed the Regent Theatre, Gatineau Point, Quebec, 350-seat house which was part of the town council building. Though the building, owned by the municipality, was insured for \$5,000, none was carried on the theatre equipment,

(Continued on Page 2)

\$360,000 Award To Chi Exhibs

In a decision considered to be of far-reaching importance in the motion picture industry of the United States, the defendants in an anti-trust suit by the Jackson Park Theatre, Chicago, were found guilty by a jury. The jury awarded triple damages amounting to \$360,000 to the plaintiffs

(Continued on Page 2)

Roy Rogers to Make Toronto Appearance

Roy Rogers, Republic's cowboy star, will appear in a rodeo at Maple Leaf Gardens, Toronto, from May 2 to 6.



Archie Laurie of Empire-Universal films was given a "Farewell to Bachelorhood" party at the Royal York Roof Garden on March 16. More than 100 film and theatre men were present. He thanks you.

Harvey E. Kissock Passes in Denver

Word has been received of the death in Denver, Colo., of Harvey Elliott Kissock, 55, son of Mrs. E. A. Kissock, 9 Ferrier Ave. He was a native of Toronto, and was once identified with the motion-picture industry here, with the old Super Features Co., and later in Western Canada. In recent years he was field representative for Nutrition Research Laboratories, Chicago, and resided in Glendale, Cal. Surviving are his widow; a son, John; a daughter, Mary of Chicago; his mother, and a brother, David of Toronto.

Vandals at Work In Hamilton

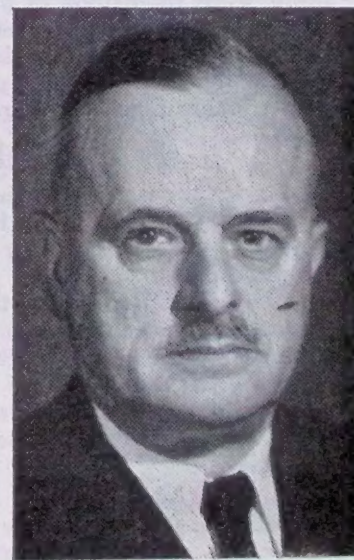
Every night for one week vandals smashed the rear exit lights of the York Theatre, Hamilton, Ontario. C. J. Kennedy, manager, informed the police. Last week prowlers forced one of the doors but left the building without stealing anything.

PRC to Color

Producers Releasing Corporation will bow into the color field with "Enchanted Forest." Color process has not been selected.



THE HON. J. EARL LAWSON, P.C., K.C.



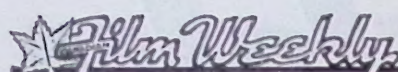
GEORGE H. BEESTON

They have been elected to the boards of directors of Odeon Theatres of Canada Limited and Empire-Universal Films Limited.

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HYE BOSSIN, Managing Editor

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Trow Tells Them

It took a Quebec exhibitor, T. H. Trow, who operates the Imperial, Three Rivers, Quebec, to take the juvenile ban in that province apart in fine style. At present children under sixteen are not admitted even if accompanied by parents, a situation which is drawing increasing attacks. Both Catholic and Protestant welfare boards have requested a change in the law but in vain.

Trow made a thorough analysis of the state of things for the members of the Three Rivers Rotary Club, who saw things his way and offered to help. His speech, we think, was the finest on the subject made so far. Though the movies are regarded as the greatest educational mediums outside the schools that don't use them as part of their methods, the children of Quebec cannot benefit in a general way.

Quebec, he said, which sometimes sets itself up as the guardian of people's morals, is the only place in North America with such a restriction.

No Sense to It

Trow reviewed the reason for the present prohibition, a disastrous theatre fire years ago in which many children lost their lives. Every theatre is regularly inspected by officials, he told his listeners, and the industry has an excellent record of safety.

"As regards the question of children's safety," he said, "even if we admit, for the sake of argument, that some element of danger exists in allowing children of tender years to go to a theatre where moving pictures are being shown, it is equally unsafe for them to attend when a vaudeville show goes into that same, identical theatre." There were thousands of such cases. "Was there ever a greater lack of logic?" he asked.

Theatre safety, he continued, was immeasurably greater than that of churches, parish halls, schools and other places where films are frequently shown.

Prevents Delinquency

As for the movies having a bad influence on children, out of 2439 films produced from 1936 to 1941, more than 80 per cent were approved by the League for Decency, which was founded by Catholic bishops. Then there was the Hays Office vigilance and the Production Code. Provincial censors also examined all films for their content. The 16 mm. films shown in parish halls and so on are exactly the ones that children may not see in theatres, though the censors do not check on the smaller-sized reels. Thus children may see what adults may not—and in places far less safe.

Juvenile delinquency in Quebec could hardly be blamed on theatres, Trow stated, since children under sixteen are barred. The parents often leave the children to their own devices while attending a movie to which they may not take them. "At the movies," he said, "they would at least be out of mischief, and they would be learning something about the things for which we are fighting. They would be seeing pictures to stir their patriotism and make them proud of the country to which they belong."

The industry owes Mr. Trow a vote of thanks and it is to be hoped that other Quebec exhibitors will make use of his points.

Theatre Burns at Gatineau, P.Q.

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valued at about \$12,000.

The heaviest losers were Mayor Arthur Moreau and Wilfred Pickard of Montreal. Mayor Moreau was associated in the theatre with Pickard and acted as manager, being assisted by his father. The total damage to the building was \$35,000. The Hull, Quebec, fire brigade assisted the local squad.

Constructed of wood with the exception of the front wall, which was made of brick, the building measured 100 feet by 50 feet and was one storey high.

The fire broke out at 4 a.m., presumably because of a short circuit. By 5.30 a.m. it was under control but two hours after the Hull firemen had returned to their station it broke out again and destroyed the building.

Two pumpers were installed on the shores of the Gatineau River and holes were broken in the ice.

One fireman was injured.

\$360,000 Award To Chi Exhibs

(Continued from Page 1)

from the defendants, Paramount, RKO Radio, Loew's, Inc., Vitagraph, B & K, Warner Bros. Pictures, Warner Bros. Theatres, Inc., and 20th Century-Fox Film Co.

Motions for appeal, to be filed in ten days, are certain.

The Jackson Park Theatre had charged inability to obtain sufficient product and that the clearance setup had been established so that the public was drawn to theatres with earlier runs. During the course of the trial, the jury personally visited nine theatres in the affected area, including the Jackson Park.

The defendants took the position that the distributors could license pictures to the theatres that they wanted to, and that there was no violation of law in price fixing so long as it did not affect competition. It further was alleged that B & K was entitled to first-run product because its theatres best served the public.

(B & K is an abbreviation of Balaban & Katz, which is controlled almost in its entirety by Paramount.)

The Jackson Park case had been pending for the last three years.

Para Signs Sandrich

Mark Sandrich has signed a new five-year deal as producer-director with Paramount.

Montreal Battle Draws Attention

(Continued from Page 1)

under the Combines Act, in which certain theatres will charge that the distribution policy which allows a stated playing time to a chain to play certain pictures in each of its theatres in a zone before others get it constitutes restraint of trade and is a contravention of the law. Such a policy is in effect in a number of Canadian territories and smaller exhibitors have protested vigorously against it in the past.

According to Section 2, clause A of the WPTB order respecting the theatre and film industry, except with the permission in writing of the administrator, "The run, clearance and/or priority enjoyed under a basic contract with respect to any product by an exhibitor in relation to any theatre shall not be changed with respect to the corresponding product of the same distributor of any subsequent releasing period."

It has generally been assumed that the WPTB had examined the business practices of the industry before the order was issued. In some cases later orders were issued to govern policies inherited but disapproved of on re-examination. Lack of action by the WPTB was taken as tacit approval.

The doings in Montreal may have a wide effect on Canadian distribution methods.



'Madame Curie'

with Greer Garson, Walter Pidgeon
M-G-M 124 Mins.

BEAUTIFULLY ACTED AND PRODUCED BIOGRAPHICAL PIC IS A SWELL BOX OFFICE PROPERTY.

The story of Marie Curie of radium fame has been brought to the screen in a brilliantly produced, richly documented and intelligently conceived film that possesses all those qualities that stir a lively public response. Solid grosses should be the rule wherever the production is exhibited. The film is unlimited in its appeal, being crammed with all the human elements that are the essence of first-rate dramatic entertainment.

The film, based on Eve Curie's biography of her mother, is a record of self-denial, tenacity, courage and faith that bears telling today. Nothing less than tremendous inspiration will be derived by audiences.

The story of the meeting of Marie and Pierre, their marriage, their collaboration which led to the discovery of radium and the death of the partner without whose help the woman might never have been able to make her great contribution to science, has been told with warmth, reverence, a fine sense of dramatic values and not without a touch of humor here and there. The production is rich in detail, with the scientific sequences bearing an air of authenticity.

Greer Garson brings Madame Curie beautifully to life. She makes the character glow with womanliness. Her portrayal here is one of her finest achievements. Walter Pidgeon lends dignity to the role of Pierre Curie. Except for a certain stiffness, there is little fault to be found with his performance. Henry Travers and Dame May Whitty play Pierre's parents superbly. The former supplies many rich moments of humor. Other smaller roles are vividly realized by Albert Basserman, Robert Walker, C. Aubrey Smith, Victor Francen, Reginald Owen and little Margaret O'Brien. The last-named enacts Eve Curie in childhood.

Sidney Franklin has discharged the duties of producer with distinction. The direction of Mervyn LeRoy is distinguished.

CAST: Greer Garson, Walter Pidgeon, Henry Travers, Albert Basserman, Robert Walker, C. Aubrey Smith, Dame May Whitty, Victor Francen, Elsa Basserman, Reginald Owen, Van Johnson, Margaret O'Brien.

DIRECTION, Fine. PHOTOGRAPHY, Fine.

'Frontier Badmen'

with Diana Barrymore, Robert Paige
Universal 77 Mins.

BANG-UP WESTERN PACKED WITH ACTION AND EXCITEMENT; STACKS UP AS SWELL BOOKING FOR KIDS.

"Frontier Badmen" is a bang-up western with such a display of fireworks as to more than compensate for the routine quality of the story. The film never slackens its whirlwind pace for an instant in a violent course that will work the kids into a stew.

It is very much of a novelty to see Diana Barrymore and Robert Paige in western roles. The former plays a dealer in a gambling joint with whom Paige, a cattleman, falls in love. Although Miss Barrymore has the top billing and is ostensibly the star of the proceedings, her role is secondary to several others. She is considerably overshadowed by Paige, Anne Gwynne, Leo Carrillo, Andy Devine and Noah Beery, Jr.

Gerald Geraghty and Morgan B. Cox have devised an exciting screenplay built around the villainy of a combine that bleeds the cattlemen. The ranchers are championed by Paige and his buddy Beery, who set out to get the lowdown on the group that is swindling the cowmen. They get into trouble right at the start and don't get out of it until the end.

The head of the combine, Thomas Gomez, maneuvers Paige into jail and tries to have him lynched for a couple of murders he hasn't committed. Our hero is saved in the nick of time by Beery, Carrillo, Devine, Miss Gwynne and Miss Barrymore. Beery and Miss Gwynne provide a companion romance to that between Miss Barrymore and Paige.

The acting suits the purposes of the film nicely. Names additional to those mentioned include Lon Chaney, Tex Ritter, William Farnum, Arthur Loft.

The direction of William McGann keeps the film in constant ferment. Ford Beebe served as associate producer.

CAST: Diana Barrymore, Robert Paige, Anne Gwynne, Leo Carrillo, Andy Devine, Noah Beery, Jr., Lon Chaney, Tex Ritter, William Farnum, Thomas Gomez, Robert Homans, Tom Fadden, Arthur Loft, Frank Lackteen.

DIRECTION, Okay. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

'Phantom Lady'

with Ella Raines, Franchot Tone,
Alan Curtis

Universal 87 Mins.
DISTINGUISHED MELODRAMA IS GEM OF SUSPENSE; PRODUCTION, DIRECTION, ACTING SUPERB.

Joan Harrison, who was Alfred Hitchcock's assistant, learned well at the feet of that master of melodrama. How well she demonstrates in her first producing effort on her own, a spellbinding psychological melodrama with a quality that would do credit to Hitchcock himself. Miss Harrison is fully capable of navigating under her own power if "Phantom Lady" is any criterion.

"Phantom Lady" is a triumph of production. Turned out with distinction and intelligence, it is a masterpiece of suspense—a suspense that at times has a positively devastating effect. While the villain is a paranoiac and several murders are involved in the unfoldment of the plot, Miss Harrison has wisely shunned any temptation to reduce the picture to a horror subject. This should work to the box-office advantage of the film, which is a superlative job of its kind from any angle one views it.

Alan Curtis is the innocent man. He is found guilty of murdering his wife when he is unable to produce an unknown woman with whom he was at the time of the crime. Ella Raines, his secretary, who is in love with him, and Thomas Gomez, inspector, who believes Curtis is innocent despite the fact he helped send the main to jail, take upon themselves the job of finding the phantom lady. In their search for the woman Miss Raines unmasks Franchot Tone, close friend of Curtis, as the murderer. Tone, psychopath, almost does away with Miss Raines before he meets his end by diving out of a window.

Miss Raines acquires much prestige through her acting in this production. Tone, Curtis and Gomez are aces. Fay Helm, Andrew Tombes and Ellsah Cook, Jr., are others who are superb.

CAST: Ella Raines, Franchot Tone, Alan Curtis, Thomas Gomez, Fay Helm, Aurora Miranda, Andrew Tombes, Ellsah Cook, Jr., Jay Novello, Joseph Crehan, Regis Toomey.

DIRECTION, Superb. PHOTOGRAPHY, Superb.

'Career Girl'

Starring Frances Langford

PRC 66 Mins.
MUSICAL ENTRY IN MODEST BUDGET FIELD PROVIDES PLEASING ENTERTAINMENT.

Here is a pleasing offering from the modest budget field. It has Frances Langford playing the title role and singing four songs, while Iris Adrian is a standout in one of the supporting roles. Jack Schwarz provided good production values, and Wallace W. Fox handled the direction.

Frances Langford enacts the role of a Kansas City girl, determined to be a success on Broadway. Craig Wood, a stuffy young coal-mine operator is in love with her and wants her to give up her stage aspirations. In New York, Frances meets Edward Norris, a business-man playboy who has faith in her ability.

When things become desperate for Frances and she is about to return to Kansas City, her friends at a girls' hotel, have her "incorporated" and get her a "break" in a small Broadway musical comedy. She makes good, and Wood graciously steps aside to let Norris win her.

"That's How Rhumba Began," "Some Day," "Blue In Love Again" and "A Dream Come True" are the songs Miss Langford sings.

CAST: Frances Langford, Edward Norris, Iris Adrian, Craig Wood, Linda Brent, Alec Craig, Ariel Heath, Lorraine Krueger, Renee White, Gladys Blake, Charles Judels, Charles Williams.

CREDITS: Producer, Jack Schwarz, Associate Producer, Harry D. Edwards; Director Wallace W. Fox; Authors, Dave Silverstein and Stanley Raub; Screenplay, Sam Neuman; Cameraman, Gustave Peterson; Art Director, Paul Sylos; Film Editor, Robert Crandall; Musical Director, Rudy Schrager; Musical Supervisor, David Chudnow; Songs, Mervyn Amsterdam and Tony Romano, Sam Neuman and Michael Breen.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

Rank, Fox Reported In English Deal

Spyros Skouras of 20th Century-Fox and J. Arthur Rank are reported to have set a production deal during the former's visit to Britain. They will jointly produce a series of films, the first of which will be "There Shall Be No Night."

EVEN IN THESE DAYS OF THE AMAZING STORY OF IS *The Talk of the*

Presented through another of those great showmanship campaigns such as hurled "Hitler's Children" and "Behind The Rising Sun" to towering box-office heights!

... Premiered in 60 cities of four states — Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and West Virginia — in conjunction with WLW, Cincinnati, "The Nation's Station," and backed by such a wave of exploitation as to cover the territory with a blanket of promotion that sold every seat available and had them standing everywhere!

Circuit operators, independents, bookers, theatremen everywhere can't get over the terrific box-office performance anew of one of the greatest attractions of all time . . .

BROKE ALL ATTENDANCE AND MONEY RECORDS FOR THE WEEK AT THE GRAND, CINCINNATI....

Opening day receipts for this 1451-seat house more than \$1000 greater than the picture's original opening in a 3,000-seat house...held over....

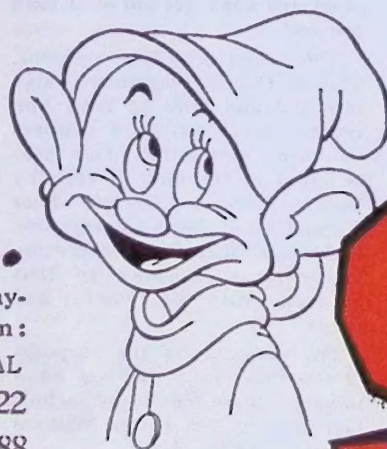
Indianapolis' great Indiana Theatre does terrific week . . . with practically all of the theatres

Here's how..

the money and attendance records were broken...a day-by-day box score of attendance of adults and children:

	ADULTS	KIDS	TOTAL
Tuesday	5607—(56%)	4215—(44%)	9822
Wednesday	4089—(66%)	2099—(34%)	6188
Thursday	3541—(66%)	1812—(34%)	5353
Friday	3844—(69%)	1685—(31%)	5529
Saturday	4805—(55%)	3807—(45%)	8612
Sunday	4290—(57%)	3210—(43%)	7500
Monday	1860—(57%)	1035—(43%)	2895
	28036—(61%)	17863—(39%)	45899

{Grand Theatre, Cincinnati}



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CROWDED THEATRES "SNOW WHITE'S" RETURN

industry

in the great 60-city premiere reporting grosses paralleling and in many cases greater than for the top pictures of recent months . . . Cities like Columbus, Dayton, Louisville, Ft. Wayne, Richmond, Ind., and Logansport report business almost beyond belief. . . .

Reports of beating top recent pictures from Muncie, Frankfort, Ind., Peru, Ashland, Ky., Middletown, Greenville, Wilmington, Cambridge, Lebanon and many, many more. . . .

More than ever, "Snow White" has the *glorious lift* for these times . . . Get your date set now!

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Snow White

and the Seven Dwarfs



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**IT'S THE NEW—
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**Isle of
Forgotten Sins**

John Carridine
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Music in the Air

It may be that this same hurdy-gurdy music that enlivens the Square these brighter mornings has been making a vain appeal all winter to our gayer spirits to come out, come out, wherever you are. Most of us have been too busy playing hide-and-go-seek with Jack Frost. We never seem to hear those twangy melodies until some vague stirrings within us, peculiar to this time of year, get on the same personal wave length.

Then, though March is still roaring like Leo the Lion, we pull our chins off our chests for the first time in months and observe the first sign of the age-old annual rebirth. The new position of your head brings into sight the cornice of nearby buildings and the distant gleam of sloping copper roofs. The varied architecture of the town occupies your curiosity until pretty girls get in your eyes, the images of bright new bonnets lingering on. The voices of noisy children at play stay with you after you are back in your office.

When winter pulls up its retreat, turns about and makes its last furious stand, you become impatient to have this snuffling and shuffling over with. You refuse to push your chin back against your chest. It's spring in your heart and you are going to maintain that attitude if it takes half the summer to bear you out.

Those Rippling, Riffing Notes

Some time before noon the moustachio'd maestro of the wheeled lyre begins his welcome whirling of the arm to churn song out of what looks like the packing case of a piano. He stations himself on the Victoria street side of the Hermant building, an ideal location. It is beside the bank. The native psychology of the maestro tells him that persons with a pile of bills don't mind shaking off a few pieces of silver. It is recorded on the ledger of his mind that the occupants of this building are generous unto a profit.

As the music goes up the silver comes down—but not until the maestro has looked up impatiently a few times, wondering what is holding back the customary acknowledgments of his patrons. The concert is usually well under way, "When You Wore a Tulip" having been rendered and the second chorus of "Melancholy Baby" half through, before a piece of silver hits the ground.

Then the interruptions start. Each time a coin lands the tune stops abruptly and there is time out for keen-eyed searching of the street. After that has happened a number of times, the office wise guy pretends to drop a coin. The music is stilled while the maestro is tricked into wasteful examination. But, having had his fun, the wise guy returns and really gives his bit.

After a while the herald of brighter days to come removes the crank, gets between the shafts and, with a farewell wave of the hand like those with which he has offered his individual thanks during the sporadic spatter of silver, moves on to more fertile territory.

Fast Changeovers

Walter "Buzz" Blondell, popular treasurer of the Imperial, Toronto, is slated for the RCAF . . . Quentin Maclean, whose organ solos at Shea's are a big thing with the city's showgoers, was married to Dorothy Baker of the staff recently. Dorothy, a grand gal, has adorned the local theatre scene for years . . . Get this!—a manager reports that one of his ushers quit him because a patron occupied her seat . . . Percy Faith, Toronto musician who conducts the Carnation Milk program from Chicago, is 1-A in the US Army. He's a brother-in-law of Harold Kay, Toronto exhibitor . . . At the Queen's, Hespeler, the cleaning woman has been tossing all pennies picked up into a milk bottle. It was decided by Manager Jack Melzer that she could use them to send her overseas soldier son cigarettes. She refused, insisting that the cigarettes go through a fund so that all might share them. There is the real spirit of sacrifice . . . That old nuisance of men removing their hats in elevators because women are present is getting the treatment it deserves in one New York hotel. A sign reads: "Though some of us are very slim, a few of us are fat. Since space is small, we ask you all, please don't remove your hat."

Lawson, Beeston Odeon Directors

(Continued from Page 1)

The placing of both in important posts of Odeon is evidence of the reorganization and preparation going on inside that company, the second largest theatre chain in Canada, to meet the demands of the post-war period for more extensive avenues of public entertainment in the Dominion. The circuit has undergone steady development under the guidance of Paul Nathanson during the past three years. It has established itself in many parts of Canada for the first time and has expanded in those areas where it was already powerful. Odeon has made great strides on the Pacific Coast.

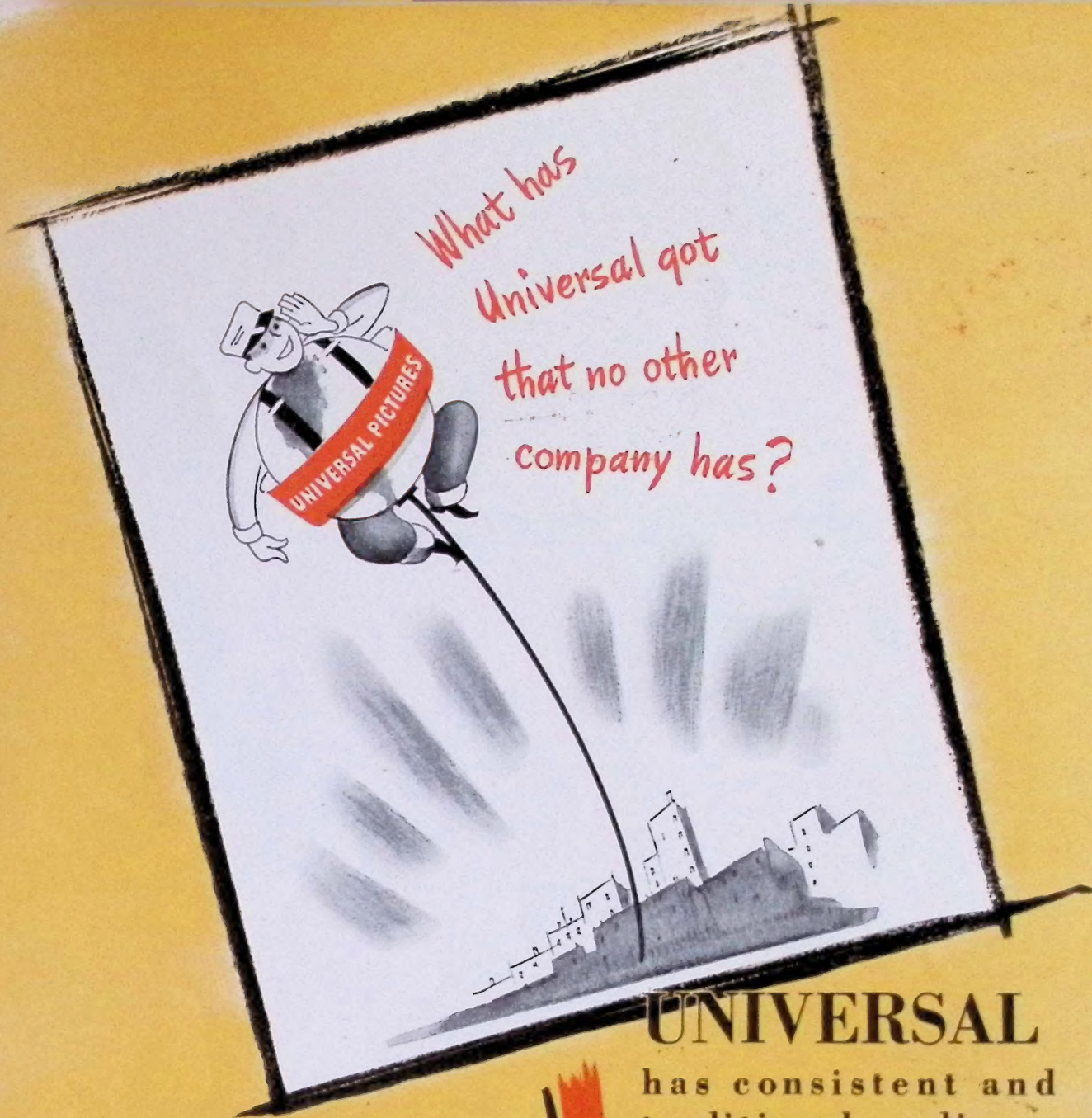
Empire-Universal, at present the largest distributor of motion pictures in Canada and one of the leading exchanges of the world, is also gearing for the future. Though Hollywood product was fewer last year than in the immediate past, there are more first-rate producers of films at work today than at any time in the last fifteen years. It is evident that the distribution picture will be a more varied one in the years to come. The small companies are now making quality pictures with increased budgets and a number of stars have entered production on their own. England promises to be the source of top product. The European countries are, of course, a mystery from a production standpoint, though it is conceded that they will provide a tremendous market.

Mr. Lawson has also been appointed a vice-president and will act as general counsel of the companies. Formerly Minister of National Revenue under the present Lord Bennett, his services have been requisitioned by business circles since his retirement from the House of Commons in 1940. He is a director of Viceroy Manufacturing Company Limited, Clark Ruse Aircraft Limited, Barker's Bakeries Limited, and Burry Biscuit Corporation of the United States.

George H. Beeston, an accountant by profession, has been actively connected with the industry for many years. Though a key man enjoying wide popularity and identified with the industry, his surface prominence has not been as great as many others holding less important posts.

'Touhy' Approved

Fox's "Roger Touhy," story of USA gangster now jailed, has been okayed for release by the FBI after alteration. It's been off the bench for six months.



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Meaning...

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"FLESH AND FANTASY"

starring in the order of their appearance

ROBERT BENCHLEY EDWARD G. ROBINSON

BETTY FIELD

with THOMAS MITCHELL

ROBERT CUMMINGS

C. AUBREY SMITH

with

ANNA LEE

EDGAR BARRIER

DAME MAY WHITTY

CHARLES BOYER

BARBARA STANWYCK

with CHARLES WINNINGER

Directed by JULIEN DUVIVIER

Produced by CHARLES BOYER and JULIEN DUVIVIER

Screen Play by Ernest Pascal • Samuel Hoffenstein • Ellis St. Joseph

Based on stories by Oscar Wilde • Laslo Vadnay • Ellis St. Joseph

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The *Best* Deanna Durbin box office picture yet!



Deanna Franchot Pat
DURBIN • TONE • O'BRIEN

in

HIS BUTLER'S SISTER

with AKIM TAMIROFF

EVELYN ANKERS • ALAN MOWBRAY • FRANK JENKS

WALTER CATLETT • ELSA JANSSEN

Original Screen Play, Samuel Hoffenstein • Betty Reinhardt

Directed by FRANK BORZAGE

Produced by FELIX JACKSON • Associate Producer FRANK SHAW

A FRANK BORZAGE Production

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The story that enthralled the world,
wild, exciting, exhilarating!

MARIA MONTEZ • JON HALL • TURHAN BEY
in

ALI BABA AND THE FORTY THIEVES

IN TECHNICOLOR!

with ANDY DEVINE • FORTUNIO BONANOVA
FRANK PUGLIA • RAMSAY AMES
MORONI OLSEN • KURT KATCH

Written for the Screen by Edmund L. Hartmann

Directed by ARTHUR LUBIN • Produced by PAUL MALVERN

Maria the
Magnificent!

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Lover...killer...schemer...a many-sided
character in a many-sided story!

Jean GABIN in

THE IMPOSTOR

with
RICHARD WHORF • ALLYN JOSLYN • ELLEN DREW
PETER VAN EYCK • JOHN QUALEN
EDDIE QUILLAN • RALPH MORGAN

Original Screen Play by Julien Duvivier
Dialogue adapted from the French by Stephen Longstreet
Additional Dialogue by Marc Connelly and Lynn Starling

Produced and Directed by
JULIEN DUVIVIER

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UNIVERSAL HAS

Dramatic chiller built on almost
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out-of-this-world in story and background!

"PHANTOM LADY"

starring
FRANCHOT TONE • ELLA RAINES
ALAN CURTIS

with
THOMAS GOMEZ • AURORA • ELISHA COOK, Jr.
FAY HELM • ANDREW TOMBES

Screen Play by Bernard C. Schoenfeld • Based on the Novel by William Irish
Directed by ROBERT SIODMAK • Associate Producer, Joan Harrison



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Dashing... Daring... Delightful!
Starring the modern youngster who sky-
rocketed to fame on his joyous personality!...

Donald O'CONNOR • Peggy RYAN • Ann BLYTH
in

"CHIP OFF THE OLD BLOCK"

with HELEN VINSON • ARTHUR TREACHER
HELEN BRODERICK • PATRIC KNOWLES
J. EDWARD BROMBERG

and introducing
"QUIZ KID" JOEL KUPPERMAN

Screen Play by Eugene Conrad and Leo Townsend
Original Story by Robert Arthur
Directed by CHARLES LAMONT
Associate Producer, Bernard W. Burton



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"KEEP UP THE ATTACK!
4th WAR LOAN!"

**AND UNIVERSAL
HAS**

WALTER WANGER

presents

**The Story of Carlson's
Makin Island Raiders**

NOW!



GUNG HO!

starring

RANDOLPH SCOTT

NOAH BEERY, Jr. • ALAN CURTIS • Peter
Coe • David Bruce • Sam Levene • J. Carroll
Naish • Richard Lane • Milburn Stone
and GRACE McDONALD

**BREAKING
HOUSE RECORDS
IN ALL OPENING
ENGAGEMENTS!**

Screen Play by Lucien Hubbard
Based on the factual story "GUNG HO" by Lt. W. S. Le Francois, U.S.M.C.
Additional Dialogue by Joseph Hoffman
Directed by RAY ENRIGHT
Produced by WALTER WANGER

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Leave it to **UNIVERSAL** to give you something
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ness . . . that zest for the different . . . that variety
of story . . . that **UNIVERSAL BOX OFFICE FEEL-
ING** you get only from **UNIVERSAL VALUES!**



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EASTER RELEASE

FOLLOW THE BOYS

THE ALL-TIME
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MUSICOMEDY

George Raft • Zorina • W. C. Fields • Sophie Tucker
Marlene Dietrich • Charles Boyer • Donald O'Connor
Orson Welles • Dinah Shore • Grace McDonald • Ted Lewis
and the orchestras of
Charlie Spivak & Freddie Slack

APRIL 15TH RELEASE

WALTER WANGER

presents

LADIES COURAGEOUS

GREATEST WOMAN'S
PICTURE OF THE YEAR!

Loretta Young • Geraldine Fitzgerald • Richard
Fraser • Diana Barrymore • Evelyn Ankers • Anne
Gwynne • David Bruce • Samuel S. Hinds

MAY 24TH RELEASE

COBRA WOMAN

in
GLORIOUS TECHNICOLOR

With the box-office stars of ALI BABA and
the FORTY THIEVES and ARABIAN NIGHTS
MARIA MONTEZ • TURHAN BEY • JON HALL

COMING

DEANNA DURBIN

in

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

AND MANY OTHER GREAT BOXOFFICE ATTRACTIONS

Contact your Nearest

EMPIRE-UNIVERSAL EXCHANGE

"Better Buy Universal For A Better Buy"

For Show Shops Prefabrication

(Continued from Page 1)

endeavor to beat Hollywood to film-hungry areas. The ready-for-use showplaces will substitute for those in urban centres destroyed by the war and serve in bringing movies to places where they have never been seen.

There are many hamlets in the rural parts of Canada and the United States which do not justify the erection of the usual types of theatres. In Canada the National Film Board and Itinerant exhibitors have developed a taste in these places for motion pictures. Prefabricated theatres will mean much to them.

The Chinese and other ambassadors refused to comment on the London story. It is thought that Rank, who controls British production and is the dominant figure in distribution and exhibition, will try to establish Old Country stars in reconquered countries before Hollywood can reach those peoples. In Europe, as on this continent, the prefabricated theatres will probably act as claim-stakers in new fields.

It is known that American manufacturers have interested themselves in the possibility of manufacturing prefabricated fireproof theatres along the lines of the mobile ones used by the army.

Many types of fireproof fabrics have been developed for military use and it is expected that their manufacture will continue after the war for theatre use. It is claimed that they will not shrink, are not subject to atmospheric changes, are mildew proof, shed dust easily, are not affected by moths and other fibre-eating insects, and will not support combustion at any time.

Myrna Loy Back

Myrna Loy, who hasn't been on the screen for some time, is back at the MGM studios to resume her picture career.

Hoffman, Producer Is Dead at 63

M. H. Hoffman, 63, who became general manager of Universal in 1912 and who in 1917 organized his own independent distributing company under the name of Four Square, died in Hollywood last week of a heart attack.

Hoffman operated Pioneer for several years and in 1921 formed Tiffany to star Mae Murray in a series of pictures for release through Metro. He had also been active in Tiffany-Stahl, and produced an early series of sound westerns starring Hoot Gibson. He formed Liberty and more recently was organizing Liberty National Pictures.

Flashbacks



Photo From Archives of Canadian Picture Pioneers

Maurice Mentel, Sam Lester and Harry Alexander

BEHIND — and above — that pre-cinema cathedral marquee is a human interest story of three motion picture pioneers who were drawn to shadows as a moth to a flame. The picture was taken only thirteen years after Edison started peep showings with his Kinetoscope and eleven years after screen projection was developed. The modest elegance of the People's Theatre front, brightening up the neighborhood, was a harbinger or great days to come. It was the father of de luxe operation and plush auditoriums. It sold the people the curiosity on which one of the greatest educational and entertainment mediums in history was to thrive.

Mentel saw a little ad in the paper about a theatre for sale. He enlisted the interest of the boys and the three acquired the People's Theatre from one Mr. Summerfield. Knowing nothing of theatre business, they built a house while living in it. And the living didn't come easy. At a nickel per fifteen-minute show nobody was getting rich.

Though the theatre had taken all their savings and the money coming back couldn't keep up with the grocer, the boys liked the business and decided to stick around—which they have for 33 years. It wasn't easy at first and it was accomplished by opening a room above the theatre as a three-man factory. Lester was a tailor, Mentel a cutter and Alexander a machine operator and they garbed many a patron. And all the time worried about filling the 100 kitchen chairs clamped to the ground in the theatre below.

Sam Lester manages the Doric, Toronto, Maurice Mentel has retired temporarily, and Harry Alexander can be found at the Lansdowne, Toronto. Between those times and these, three personal histories have evolved, movies became a great industry and store shows became cathedrals of the drama.

But those are other stories.

NSS Checkup On All Male Help

Employers are now under government obligation to examine the documents of male employees and advise National Selective Service of those who fail to prove good standing under Mobilization Regulations. The examination must be completed before May 1 of this year.

"Male employee," the order states, means all person working for you, including relatives.

Obligation to make the examination rests on each and every employer of male persons, no matter the status of the employee, and every employer must act.

Penalties are provided for failure to carry out this examination, and for male employees failing to assist by refusal to produce documents.

A booklet, "Employers' Guide," has been sent to industrial and commercial employers. If you have not been officially notified of the survey by booklet or postcard, contact the nearest Employment and Selective Service Office and ask for the booklet.

The order was signed by Humphrey Mitchell, Minister of Labor, and Arthur MacNamara, Director of National Selective Service.

Mono Story Buy

Monogram has purchased "Should a Daughter Tell?" an original story by Harrison Howell, executive director Trem Carr announced last week. The story is scheduled as part of the 1944-45 program.

B.C. Revision Court Denies Theatre Plea

The Cranbrook, British Columbia, court of revision was upheld in its refusal of revision last January when the appeal of Cranbrook Theatre Ltd. for revision of assessment came up in County Court last week. The theatre appealed for a downward revision in assessment because a new heating plant on ground level had to be built when acceptance put the furnace out of operation.

Though the original building permit for improvement was for \$400, the theatre owner testified that the actual cost of the plant was \$3,000, but the city maintained that it was not responsible for the additional cost which was not added to the assessment value, leaving it unchanged.

The Critics And The Crowds Agree

IT'S KAYE!

Laughing room only
at the Music Hall



"A tuneful and lavish musical... Danny Kaye belongs in the ranks of the great comic specialists of our day."

—Kate Cameron
N. Y. Daily News

"Danny Kaye is terrific and so is 'Up In Arms'... Good music, great comedy and glamour babes packaged in a brilliant production which will be up in big dough."

—Frank Quinn
N. Y. Daily Mirror

"Danny Kaye is superbly funny... Samuel Goldwyn has shot the works in 'Up In Arms'."

—Howard Barnes
N. Y. Herald-Tribune

"Mr. Goldwyn has put aboard his troopship some army nurses that would make malaria a rare privilege... the femininity fairly tempts low howls... Hey, what else do we want with Danny Kaye!..."

—Bosley Crowther
N. Y. Times

"Ladies and gentlemen—Take a firm grip on yourself and the nearest bit of furniture screwed to the floor... Introducing Danny Kaye!... In this, his first picture, he shoots the works."

—Archer Winsten
N. Y. Post

LOSSAL!

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S

UP IN ARMS

IN TECHNICOLOR

with

DANNY KAYE
DINAH SHORE · DANA ANDREWS
CONSTANCE DOWLING
 and the gorgeous **GOLDWYN GIRLS**

Associate Producer **DON HARTMAN** · Directed by **ELLIOTT NUGENT**

Original Screen Play by Don Hartman, Allen Boretz and Robert Pirosh

Released Through **RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.**

Songs by Harold Arlen & Ted Koehler—Sylvia Fine & Max Liebman



"Danny Kaye's inspired idiocy runs riot at the Music Hall... If you never have seen Danny Kaye you have one of the most fantastic experiences of your theatre-going life ahead of you."

—Alton Cook
N. Y. World-Telegram

"Danny Kaye's comedy is fresh and, in spite of translation from stage to screen, still holding the quality of spontaneity... his crazy, funny double-talk songs are no less amusing on the screen than on the stage."

—Eileen Creelman
N. Y. Sun

"There's grand entertainment at the Music Hall... Lavishly produced and handsomely photographed in Technicolor, the picture offers gay comedy, lilting music, decorative choruses—and Danny Kaye."

—Rose Pelwick
N. Y. Journal American

"Aside from its truly momentous significance as Danny Kaye's debut in film, 'Up In Arms' is undoubtedly every man's dream of what the Army ought to be like... an explosively funny picture."

—McManus
P.M.

"The movie is a howl."
 —*Life Magazine*

'Standing Room Only' Pert Para Comedy

PARAMOUNT went to Washington again for this comedy of contracts and congestion—and came back with a film that provides lively action and continuous laughter.

The studio put a prize team in the field for this one—Fred MacMurray and Paulette Goddard. Both get the most out of the many screwy situations and laugh lines, individually and together. To support them in the manner they deserve, Roland Young and Edward Arnold are on hand. The result is excellent and a treat for patrons who like laughter—and how many don't?

It's a story of a business man and his secretary who hire out as a servant couple in pursuit of a government contract. In the cast are Veda Ann Borg, Ann Revere, Porter Hall and other familiar faces.



Musicians Lose Disc Dispute

Decision of a special War Labor Board panel in the United States may upset the plans of the American Federation of Musicians to apply a levy against producers and exhibitors in the future. The union, under James C. Petrillo, had ordered its men to make no more records for companies who did not pay a fee into a special unemployment fund. All but two companies, after a short withholding of the services of musicians, yielded. The Radio Corporation of America and the Columbia Broadcasting System refused and the matter went into dispute.

The panel, in a 2-to-1 decision, urged the War Labor Board in Washington to direct the union to have its members return to work for the recording subsidiaries of the above-mentioned companies. The musicians quit both in August, 1942.

In the decision of the panel it was admitted that the introduction of sound movies had caused a great decrease in the employment of musicians but it held that the companies involved in the present dispute had no connection with the motion picture industry.

During the hearing Joseph E. Padway, counsel for the union, when asked about the movie situation, replied, "We recognize the situation and we'll open a second front when feasible. Right now it would take every penny of the \$1,500,000 in the A.F. of M. treasury to wage a fight against the movies."

RCA and Columbia together are the biggest producers of records, the former issuing 56,000,000 in a normal year and the latter 39,000,000.

Petrillo, saying that the fight does not involve a war effort issue, made it known that his federation would resist the order to the very last. He predicted eventual victory.

The member of the panel who represented industry, Gilbert E. Fuller, differed sharply with the member representing labor, Max Zaritsky, president of an AFL union, on the question of direct payment to a union for its unemployment fund. Fuller brought up the possibility of misuse of such funds, while Zaritsky felt that the union should be praised for seeking the solution to a grave problem. Zaritsky endorsed the union conception of unemployment. He said that if the demands were unusual, they were prompted by unusual conditions and unusual relations between employer and employee.

Big Plans For Next Season

Early reports about the future intentions of the studios indicate that production for the 1944-45 season will show a distinct increase over this one. A number of studios have already announced their plans. All seem to have an optimistic outlook. Whether the increased allowance in essential materials will remain as it is, is not known, although the film makers seem to think so. Ways have been developed of getting increased use out of fewer materials and this may help the studios carry out their announcements.

Columbia has 48 to 50 features on its schedule, exclusive of ten Westerns. This represents an increase of from four to six over the 44 that will be released during this season, giving that studio a total of 60 for the year. The number of special features will go up from two to four and Western specials will be increased by the same amount.

Fox Likely Up

Twentieth Century-Fox, spending \$45,000,000 for 53 pictures for the coming twelve-month period, is in the finest shape in its history and geared to move ahead. Its production will be increased by over 20 per cent and its present roster of actors, craftsmen and executives is the greatest yet. It has nine executive heads, 21 producers, 21 directors, 32 stars among its 162 players, 52 writers, 22 department heads, 28 cameramen and assistants, 16 assistant directors, 16 composers and lyricists, four dance directors, four dialogue directors and three style designers.

This studio will make 24 musicals as part of its schedule.

Universal the Same

Universal will make approximately the same number of pictures it is making this season for 1944-45—55 features, seven Westerns, 81 reels of short sub-

Zaritsky pointed out that a number of clauses in the decision were conjectural. These clauses referred to the effect of radio, juke boxes, transcriptions and wired music on unemployment, and included the statement in each case that they had "probably not," on the balance, decreased employment. He held that the decision was, therefore, not well grounded.

Last year the musician's federation and the IATSE dissolved an agreement whereby each was not to cross the other's picket line.

jects, according to William A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager. Two will be sold separately, seven will be Westerns and eight will be in Technicolor.

The diversified program, Scully said, would be "the exhibitor's chance for permanent prosperity and permanent good-will with the public to provide as much diversity in his theatres as is humanly possible."

Monogram Ambitious

Monogram will release 26 features and 16 Westerns during the 1944-45 season, according to W. Ray Johnston. A number of A productions are slated. Pictures definitely scheduled are one with Belita, two specials with Gale Storm, four with the East Side Kids, three with Billy Gilbert, Maxie Rosenbloom and Shemp Howard, and two Charlie Chan productions with Sydney Toler. There will be two Western series, one of which will feature Johnny Mack Brown and Raymond Hatton.

The studio expects to grow with the European market and is aiming at the first-run houses in Canada and the United States. The success of "Where Are Your Children?", "Women in Bondage" and "Lady, Let's Dance" in leading situations has provided a great spur.

PRC's Sharp Hop

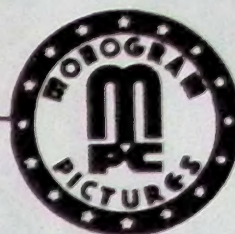
Producers Releasing Corporation has 40 in its lineup for next season, many of them above its normal budget and a number of them drawing an allotment of \$300,000. A few years ago the top budget for this studio was \$25,000.

Four will be musicals and one will be in color. "Dixie Showboat," the first musical in the 1944-45 lineup, has been completed. It stars Frances Langford, Guy Kibbee, Charles Butterworth, Lyle Talbot and Fifi D'Orsay.

Constance Bennett recently joined PRC as a producer for two films. "Minstrel Man," one of this season's productions in which Benny Fields is featured, has already gone over its original allotment and it is estimated that the final cost will reach \$300,000.

Increased production and quality seem to be the keynote for the next season. The efforts of independent producers, a number of them stars, should cause the general variety of films to be unusual.

From here it seems that 1944-45 will be the finest season in Hollywood history.



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277 Victoria Street,
Toronto.

MONOGRAM

Presents

THREE HITS

That Are Making
MOVIE HISTORY

★

Lady, Let's Dance

with beautiful, versatile

BELITA

★

Where Are Your Children?

As Topical as
Tomorrow's News

with Jackie Cooper
and Gale Storm

★

Women In Bondage

Gail Patrick, Nancy Kelly,
H. B. Warner

A Gripping Story of the Women of Germany

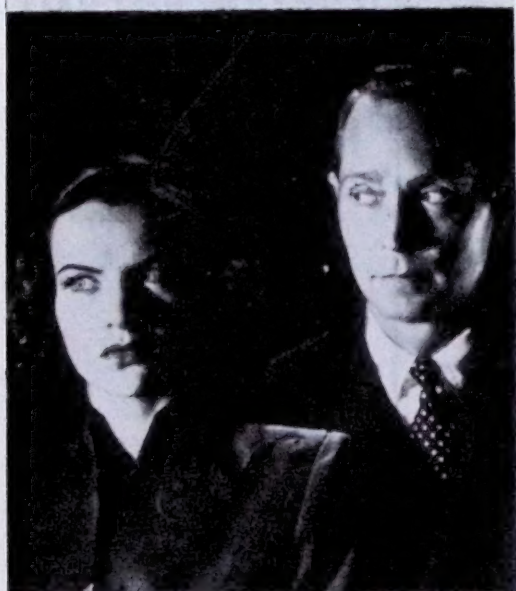
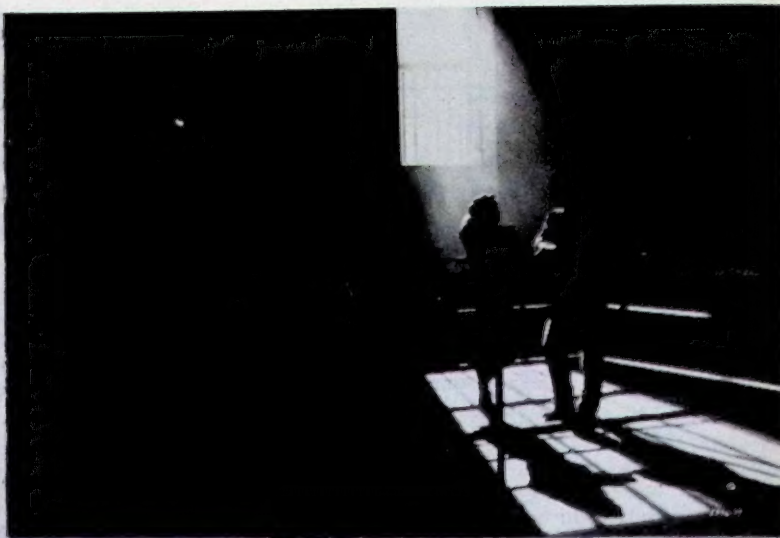
★

DON'T GAMBLE

BE SURE WITH

MONOGRAM PICTURES

Toronto, Montreal, St. John,
Winnipeg, Calgary, Vancouver.



U's 'Phantom Lady' a Gem of Suspense

A THRILLER in the best Hitchcock tradition is Universal's "Phantom Lady," which features the rising Ella Raines, excellently supported by Franchot Tone and Alan Curtis.

Everything about the film is of a high quality—direction, story, production and so on. It is doing strong business in its first runs.

It's the story of the search for an elusive only witness that can free a man wrongly held for murder. It has a surprise finish.

Thomas Gomez, Fay Helm, Aurora Miranda, Elisha Cook, Jr. and Regis Toomey are splendid.

